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(54) Title: TREATMENT OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS WITH CD99 ANTAGONISTS

(57) Abstract: The invention encompasses novel methods of treating rheumatoid arthritis and its symptoms and novel methods of identifying and screening for drugs useful in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and its clinical symptoms. Targeted manipulation of a computer model of a human rheumatic joint provided the surprising result that the activity of CD99, an adhesion molecule known to have an effect on some cancers, has a significant impact on the pathophysiology of rheumatoid arthritis. Inhibition of the activity of CD99 is predicted to alleviate the symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis.

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